The Irondale Historical

June/July 2008

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Welcome to the second edition of the Irondale Historical Committee's newsletter. This is where you will find snippets of history, "Who is it" photos, and exciting finds. We trust you will enjoy.

The **Irondale Historical Committee's Open House** on Sunday May 18 2008 was enjoyed by a small but interesting group. Some people came ready to share stories, photos and items. Clare (McAlpine) Flagler and her daughter Patricia travelled from the Bancroft area to share lots of photos with the others as well as leave a photo CD with us to use in the book.

The people of Irondale gave this clock to Michael J. McAlpine when he left the area.

Clare's parents ran the train station in Irondale. They wanted to share with you a photo of the clock given to her father, Michael J. McAlpine, when he left the area.

Patricia writes - *Thank you for providing an opportunity for my mother to reminisce about her years in Irondale. It was also valuable for me to have some understanding of the settlement that she grew up in and how the village would have looked so many years ago. I now have some idea where the station was where Mom was born.*

She does love to say when asked what sign she was born under "The I.B. & O".

We've had a wonderful email from Grenville Schrader. He writes " In 1942, the Canadian National Railways was an essential Service of a Country at War and my father Archie Schrader as a Section4man, was frozen in the services of the CNR during this period. Charlie Woermke, Section4man, Irondale turned 65 years in 1942 and was forced to retire against his will. (Policy). My father succeeded Charlie. Due to living on the Lower Dutch Line south of Gelert, we could not load our household effects in a railroad car, so it was loaded on two wagons and hauled across the old gravel Irondale road to Irondale. We children drove our few head of stock. The worst part for me - being 12 years of age - was my Grandfather Louis Wilhelm Schrader engaging in a friendly conversation of Ye Ole "gothic German" with Charlie Woermke! I expected at any moment to be arrested and placed in a concentration camp."

Blessed ...

Blessed are all the great grandmothers who hoarded newspaper clippings and old letters, for they tell the story of their time.
Blessed are all the grandfathers who filed every legal document, for this provides the proof.
Blessed are all the grandmothers who preserved family bibles and diaries, for this is our heritage.
Blessed are all the fathers who elect officials who answer letters of inquires, for some they are the only link to the past.
Blessed are all the mothers who relate family traditions and legends to the family, because one of her children will certainly remember.
Blessed are all the relatives who fill in Family group sheets with extra data, for theirs is a labour of love,
Blessed are all the children who will never say, "Grandma, you have told me that old story twice today".

"taken from The Family Genealogist -- from the GGS Germanic Group published in Bruce Bulletin, Feb 2008"

THE LITTLE VILLAGE STORE

Do you read the advertisements
In the Haliburton News
They tell you Mr. So and So
Has very dressy shoes.
And Mr L has quite a stock
Of apples in this store
So if you're out of those two things
Be sure and get some more.
Another place has just got in
A brand new line of sox
And you can get some lovely ties
With handsome polka dots.
There's birthday cards and magazines,
And writing pads in stock,
They carry almost everything
Just in this one small block.
The grocery stores are crowded
With lots of things to eat
And hardware stocks are all pile up
On shelves so trim and neat.
The bake shop has the grandest bread
All fresh and crusty brown,
In fact, there hardly is a thing
You cannot buy in town.
So let us read the ads appearing
In the County News
The paper that appears each week
With everybody's views,
And patronize our little shops
That serve us more and more.
The places we all know so well,
The little village store.

A. Nonymous

Have memories you'd like to share?
1. What it was like to go to the store the first time all by yourself?
2. What could you buy for a nickel, a dime or 25 cents?
3. What was your favourite treat?

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

Q: Is anybody making money from this book?
A: The committee are all volunteers, each bringing something special to the table.
Q: What kind of things are you looking for and will I get my stuff back?
A: Letters, photos, books, family histories and maps. You may have old tools or heirlooms you'd like to share. We will scan or photograph them, get a note or two from you and return all your things to you.

North Victoria and Haliburton

Gold and nickel were both found..... Mr George McKee's farm we secured several fine nickel samples. An hour's work in digging and rolling out blasted rock gave us a find appetite.

..... That afternoon found us traversing the newly opened way to the White Lake road to Kinmount. It might be worse. The route from White Lake to Irondale west of Devil's lake is also rough. The place is well named. Over both of these we took a rest by walking much of the way, and had the satisfaction of blistering the feet. As a consequence our humor was kind of critical. On the farm of Mr Switzer in Snowdon we secured samples of area and are having them assayed. They indicate gold.

At Irondale the railway works were inspected and a trip was taken on the "little Mary Ann" or "Mary Ann's up," the new engine and car for the railway. The road is now open on to Gooderham ten miles farther. That makes upwards of twenty miles from the junction near Kinmount. Much freight is ready to be hauled over the road, and it is expected much ore will now be brought.

One of the roughest roads, next to the Devil's Lake one, is that from Irondale to Gelert. But there the walking was also very good. No long stay was made at Gelert, for it was then after dark and Minden had to be reached that night. Arrived there soon after eight o'clock our good friends were seen, and a pleasant evening was passed. Mr. John H. Graham, the popular proprietor of the hotel where we put up was happy in having become a papa – the little one being a bouncing baby girl. The grandpa, Mr James Mortimer, also felt greatly elated over the arrival. Though we are not a good judge of babies, our experience begin more limited than some, yet the little Minden visitor seemed a fine looking young tory. Michael Brown was seen in his neat new post office, and his is a model. His nephew Mater Willie Dunn is an able assistant.

Early on Thursday morning several other calls were made some of the teachers and teachers in training at the model school were met, among them being a favourite in Lindsay Miss Juliet McIntosh. Speaking of schools, it may be noted that at the McKee settlement a visit was paid the school where Miss Staples of Pontypool in Manvers, but formerly of Cavan is doing effective teaching. The school was neat and the children .....

Early newspaper clipping of undetermined date .... from clues within the story, editor says it would have likely been written spring 1894.